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## BILL TEXT AND BACKGROUND FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 16, 2009

• H.R. 1388 - Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act

## H.R. 157 -H.R. 1388 - GENERATIONS INVIGORATING VOLUNTEERISM AND EDUCATION

<u>ACT</u>(Rep. McCarthy (NY) – Education and Labor) (Subject to a Rule)

Bill Text: HTML Version, PDF Version

**Bill Summary and Status** 

**Rules Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. in H-313 the Capitol, <u>Special</u> Announcement, <u>Meeting Time:</u> 2:30 pm Tuesday 3/17, <u>Amendment Deadline:</u> 12:00 p.m.

Monday 3/16, Text of bill as Ordered Reported Committee: Committee on Education and Labor

**Committee Staff Contact: 5-3725** 

## **LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

## The Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act

Calling Americans to Serve at a Critical Time

America is facing unprecedented challenges – the economy, health care, energy, schools in need of improvement and more. With our public needs intensifying in this recession, there's no better time to support and energize community service and volunteerism to help our country get through this economic crisis, restore confidence and prepare our nation for the future.

President Obama has called on Congress to create new opportunities for Americans to build a stronger country by helping students perform better in school, prepare Americans for green and innovative 21st century jobs, rebuild cities in times of disaster, improve communities and much, much more. This legislation answers his call. It will launch a new era of service that will give Americans of all ages an opportunity to invest through service in our nation's recovery. Specifically, the bill:

## Creates 175,000 New Service Opportunities and Rewards Americans for Commitment

➤ Grows the number of volunteers nationwide to 250,000, up from 75,000. The bill also links the full-time education award to the maximum authorized Pell Grant award amount in order to keep up with rising college costs.

### Provides Incentives for Middle and High School Students to Engage in Service

Establishes the Summer of Service program that engages middle and high school students in volunteer activities in their communities and allows them to earn a \$500 education award to be used for college costs.

#### Makes High School Students Part of Solution to Challenges in their Communities

➤ Establishes Youth Engagement Zones, a new service-learning program to help bridge partnerships between community based organizations and schools in high-need, low income communities to engage high school students and out-of-school youth in service learning to address specific challenges their communities face.

## Recognizes and Supports Colleges and Universities Engaged in Service

Establishes the Campuses of Service to support and recognize institutions of higher education with exemplary service-learning programs and assists students in the pursuit of public service careers.

# **Boosts Opportunities for Disadvantaged Youth**

Expands opportunities for disadvantaged youth, including those with disabilities, to become more involved with service and strives to include people of all ages and those from diverse background in volunteerism.

# Creates Green and Other New Service Corps to Meet Key Needs in Low-Income Communities

Establishes four new service corps to address key needs in low income communities, including a **Clean Energy Corps** to encourage energy efficiency and conservation measures, an **Education Corps** to help increase student engagement, achievement and graduation, a **Healthy Futures Corps** to improve health care access, and a **Veterans Service Corps** to enhance services for veterans.

## **Broadens Scope of Collaborative Service Efforts**

- Expands the focus of the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) to include disaster relief, infrastructure improvement, environmental and energy conservation, and urban and rural development.
- ➤ Encourages service partnerships with other federal agencies.

## Recruits Scientists and Engineers to Service to Keep America Competitive

Recruits scientists, technicians, mathematicians and engineers into national service to help keep America competitive.

## **Expands Service Opportunities for Older Americans and Public-Private Partnerships**

- Creates two new fellowships to engage social entrepreneurs, boomers and retirees, the private sector and Americans from all generations in service.
  - Serve America Fellowships: Serve America Fellows are individuals who propose
    their own plans for serving in their communities to address national needs and are
    matched up with a service sponsor.
  - o **Silver Scholarships and Encore Fellowships**: These programs offer boomers and seniors, age 55 or older, opportunities to transition into service post-career as well as entrance into new careers in the public or nonprofit sector.

## Creates a nationwide community-based infrastructure to leverage investments in service

- ➤ Builds a nationwide service infrastructure through community-building investments and social entrepreneurship.
  - Community Solutions Fund: Creates a Community Solutions Fund pilot program
    that awards competitive matching grants to social entrepreneur venture funds in order
    to provide community organizations with the resources to replicate or expand proven
    solutions to community challenges.

## **Establishes Call to Service Campaigns**

➤ Includes a Call to Service Campaign to launch a national campaign encouraging all Americans to engage in service and to observe September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance.

## **Full Committee on Education and Labor Mark-up:**

Full Committee Mark-up of H.R. 1388: Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education (GIVE) Act, March 11, 2009

- National Journal Report: House Panel Authorizes \$5 Billion For Volunteer Programs
- > Opening Statement: Chairman Miller

## **Summary of Committee Votes:**

- Rep. Tonko, D-N.Y. Social Innovation Fund Amendment to the Substitute Amendment
   — Would establish a "social innovation fund" would provide seed money for social entrepreneurs
   and non-profit groups to implement initiatives and leverage public-private partnerships.
   Adopted by Voice Vote.
- Rep. Ehlers, R-Mich. Energy Conservation Amendment to the Substitute Amendment Would expand the nonprofit programs receiving federal incentive grants to include programs implementing or promoting energy audits, weatherizing homes and other energy conservation activities. Adopted by Voice Vote.
- Rep. Loebsack, D-Iowa State Grants Amendment to the Substitute Amendment Would increase funds allocated to federal matching grants to state commissions over the next five years from a minimum award of \$200,000 and a maximum award of \$825,000 to a minimum of \$250,000 and a maximum of \$1 million. Adopted by Voice Vote.
- Rep. Polis, D-Colo. Annual Report on Participants Amendment to the Substitute Amendment
   — Would require the Corporation for National and Community Service to annually collect
   and submit to Congress a report on demographic and socioeconomic information on the
   participants of all programs that would be authorized by the bill. Adopted by Voice Vote.
- Chairman Miller Rep. Substitute Amendment Amendment would: Establish four new service corps for low income communities, including: A Clean Energy Corps to encourage energy conservation activities including, as amended, programs implementing or promoting energy audits, weatherizing homes and other energy conservation activities. An Education Corps to help increase student achievement. A Healthy Futures Corps to improve health care access. A Veterans Service Corps to enhance services for veterans. Establish the Summer of Service program for middle and high school students community service programs and a \$500 education award to defray college costs. Establish a Community Solutions Fund pilot program that awards matching grants to social entrepreneur venture funds. Establish Youth Engagement Zones, a service-learning program in high-need, low-income communities for high school students and out-of-school youth. Establish the Campuses of Service to support service-learning programs in higher education institutions. Establish fellowships for seniors, age 55 or older, transition into jobs in the nonprofit sector.

- O As amended, the substitute also would: Establish a "social innovation fund" would provide seed money for social entrepreneurs and non-profit groups to implement initiatives and leverage public-private partnerships. Authorize federal matching grants to state commissions over the next five years, ranging from a minimum award \$250,000 and a maximum award of \$1 million. Require the Corporation for National and Community Service to annually collect and submit to Congress a report on demographic and socioeconomic information on the participants of all programs that would be authorized by the bill. Adopted, as Amended, by Voice Vote.
- Vote to Report: Favorably Reported to the Full House, as Amended, by a Roll Call Vote of 34-3: R 10-3; D 23-0; I 1-0 (roll call vote).

#### **CRS Reports:**

<u>R40432</u>: Reauthorization in the 111th Congress of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973

## **GAO Reports:**

(TBA)

## **CBO Report:**

(TBA)

## **Organization Statements:**

(TBA)

## **Administration Position:**

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#### **Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

Fact Sheet — Committee on Education and Labor

## **Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

<u>Press Release</u> — House Education Committee Overwhelmingly Approves Legislation to Renew America's Commitment to Service

## **Other Resources:**

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